

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated February 17, 2005. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 13 - 31 are pending in the application. Claims 1 - 12 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants submit that no new matter is being introduced through the submission of this response.

Features of the Invention

The present invention as recited in claim 13 is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for recording and reproducing information; and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer has a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. A bit length of the dummy signal is less than a bit length of the burst signal.

According to claim 15, the present invention is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for recording and reproducing information; and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer has a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. The burst area is formed with a bit length of the dummy signal less than a bit length of the burst signal, such that the burst signal is extractable from the burst area.

According to claim 22, the present invention is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for

recording and reproducing information, and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer has a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. A frequency of the dummy signal is higher than a frequency of the burst signal.

According to claim 24, the present invention is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for recording and reproducing information, and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer has a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. The burst area is formed with a frequency of the dummy signal higher than a frequency of the burst signal, such that the burst signal is extractable from the burst area.

According to claim 27, the present invention is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for recording and reproducing information, and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer has a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. A recording density of the dummy signal is higher than a recording density of the burst signal.

Lastly, the present invention as recited in claim 29 is directed to a magnetic recording system for perpendicular recording hard disk drives, comprising: a magnetic head for recording and reproducing information; and a perpendicular magnetic recording medium having a perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and a soft magnetic underlayer. The perpendicular magnetic recording layer having a burst area, the burst area having a first area with a burst signal recorded therein for positioning the magnetic head, and a second area with a dummy signal recorded therein. The burst area is formed with a recording density of the dummy signal less than a recording density of the burst signal, such that the burst signal is extractable from the burst area.

Prior Art Rejection

As discussed in the previously filed responses, claims 13 - 15, 17, 22 - 25 and 27 - 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,731,446 to Ikeda et al. (hereinafter “Ikeda”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,025,970 to Cheung (hereinafter “Cheung”), and claims 26 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda in view of Cheung, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,490,111 to Sacks (hereinafter “Sacks”). These rejections have been carefully considered, but are again most respectfully traversed.

During a telephone conference with the Examiner on March 2, 2005, Applicants’ undersigned attorney brought to the attention of the Examiner the fact that a verified translation of the Applicants’ JP priority application had been timely filed with the response of August 27, 2004, and that the submission of the translation was not considered in the above-referenced Final Office Action. In a subsequent telephone conference with the Examiner on March 15, 2005, the Examiner after conferring with her SPE acknowledged that the translation was timely filed and should have been considered. Further, submission of the translation does remove the reference of Ikeda from being cited as prior art. Consequently, The Examiner also acknowledged that there are no other primary references on file with which to continue rejecting the claims as currently amended. All the other references are secondary and do not by themselves or in combination show all the features of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for her consideration in this matter.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as now claimed and as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200

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